

Appl. No. 10/674,572
Amdt. dated 04/25/2005
Reply to Office action of 04/07/2005

Amendments to the Specification

Amendment of the abstract:

Please replace the abstract with the following version:

A GMR read head is described. The device comprises a spin valve stack whose top layer is a first capping layer. On the first capping layer are two additional layers, a lead overlay layer and a second capping layer. These are divided into two opposing portions, separated from each other by a trench that is filled with a dielectric. A bias layer and a conductive lead layer contact the stack on its sidewalls.